



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

July 28, 2010

The Honorable Jan Brewer  
Governor of Arizona  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Fax: (602) 542-1381

RE: *United States v. Arizona*

Dear Governor Brewer, *Jan*

Please know that I continue to support your effort to force the federal government to do something it has failed to do for decades, namely secure our border and enforce the law.

Pundits have been quick to dismiss your efforts, pointing out that Congress occupies the field in this matter and that states are precluded from enacting laws on immigration. Critics are quick to cite today's court decision as a success, but they fail to admit the abject failure of the federal government to address illegal immigration. Moreover, Arizona's action has properly caused our citizens to ask the question: What happens when the federal government fails in an area it is supposed to wholly occupy?

Arizona is embodying the Framers' vision of states as the laboratories of our republic, standing at the forefront and leading the discussion about the impacts of illegal immigration. Your efforts, despite today's initial setback, will help lead to a solution that I earnestly hope can be duplicated in other states.

I understand your frustration. Washington, D.C. is disconnected and out of touch. More and more we are seeing states rights – including police powers – trampled on and rejected, especially in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit. I believe the current debate would be quite a bit different if the federal government lived up to the 28 words of the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States Constitution.

As Always – Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C.L. Butch Otter", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

C.L. "Butch" Otter  
Governor of Idaho